



Claim 1 (CURRENTLY AMENDED)

An electrically powered toothbrush apparatus comprising: a removable and replaceable head with bristles, a neck portion and a handle, the neck portion being engaged with, and removably secured, to abut and directly contact the handle;
[and an eccentrically rotational weight engaged for rotation with a motor,]
a self supporting, elongate, flexible wire shaft connected to and extending from a motor to a remote end of the toothbrush within the neck, the motor being disposed within the handle and connected to the wire shaft by a drive shaft and flexible coupling; [the] a weight eccentrically mounted [disposed] on the wire shaft [within] at the head and adjacent the bristles [,] to effect rotational and lateral motion therewith at a resonant sonic frequency, the wire shaft being isolated from the neck portion; the remote end of the drive shaft terminating in an anchored bearing adjacent the weight; [the motor disposed within the handle; the head, neck integrally formed;] whereby, the head, neck and weight [having] provide a [natural] resonant [ce] frequency of vibration approximately matched to the rotational speed of the motor.

CLEAN COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electrically powered toothbrush apparatus comprising: a removable and replaceable head with bristles, a neck portion and a handle, the neck portion being engaged with, and removably secured, to abut and directly contact the handle; a self-supporting, elongate, flexible wire shaft connected to and extending from a motor to a remote end of the toothbrush within the neck, the motor being disposed within the handle and connected to the wire shaft by a drive shaft and flexible coupling; a weight eccentrically mounted on the wire shaft at the head and adjacent the bristles to effect rotational and lateral motion therewith at a resonant sonic frequency, the wire shaft being isolated from the neck portion; the remote end of the drive shaft terminating in an anchored bearing adjacent the weight; whereby, the head, neck and weight provide a resonant frequency of vibration approximately matched to the rotational speed of the motor.

CLAIMS 2 - 5 (CANCELLED)

CLAIM 6 (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the bristles are mounted in a removable brush.

CLAIM 7 (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the removable brush is attached to the head by a sliding engagement means.

CLAIM 8 (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the sliding engagement means comprises a first and second mutually joinable engagement elements.

CLAIM 9 (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the removable brush provides a tab.

CLAIM 10 (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the neck provides a tab receiver engageable with the tab of the removable brush for securement of the removable brush on the head.

CLAIM 11 (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a center of mass of the head is laterally offset from the drive shaft and wherein the neck and head are flexible so as to oscillate in synchronized rotational motion about a longitudinal axis of the drive shaft as the weight rotates.

CLAIM 12 (NEW) The toothbrush apparatus of claim 1, in which the handle and neck portion are threadably engaged.

CLAIM 13 (NEW) The toothbrush apparatus of claim 1, in which the resonant frequency is 10,000 cpm - 17,500 cpm.

Claim 1 (CURRENTLY AMENDED)

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[and an eccentrically rotational weight engaged for rotation with a motor,]
a self supporting, elongate, flexible wire shaft connected to and extending from a motor to a remote end of the toothbrush within the neck, the motor being disposed within the handle and connected to the wire shaft by a drive shaft and flexible coupling; [the] a weight eccentrically mounted [disposed] on the wire shaft [within] at the head and adjacent the bristles [,] to effect rotational and lateral motion therewith at a resonant sonic frequency, the wire shaft being isolated from the neck portion; the remote end of the drive shaft terminating in an anchored bearing adjacent the weight; [the motor disposed within the handle; the head, neck integrally formed;] whereby, the head, neck and weight [having] provide a [natural] resonant frequency of vibration approximately matched to the rotational speed of the motor.

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CLAIMS 2 - 5 (CANCELLED)

CLAIM 6 (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the bristles are mounted in a removable brush.

CLAIM 7 (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the removable brush is attached to the head by a sliding engagement means.

CLAIM 8 (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the sliding engagement means comprises a first and second mutually joinable engagement elements.

CLAIM 9 (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the removable brush provides a tab.

CLAIM 10 (ORIGINAL) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the neck provides a tab receiver engageable with the tab of the removable brush for securement of the removable brush on the head.

CLAIM 11 (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a center of mass of the head is laterally offset from the drive shaft and wherein the neck and head are flexible so as to oscillate in synchronized rotational motion about a longitudinal axis of the drive shaft as the weight rotates.

CLAIM 12 (NEW) The toothbrush apparatus of claim 1, in which the handle and neck portion are threadably engaged.

CLAIM 13 (NEW) The toothbrush apparatus of claim 1, in which the resonant frequency is 10,000 cpm - 17,500 cpm.